

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 41, and 42 as follows:

Sub D2 (Thrice Amended) A method of making a matrix [device] for controlled release of at least one pesticide useful for retarding or preventing decay or deterioration of a wooden object by pests, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) forming a mixture comprising [binding] at least one liquid pesticide and [to] a plurality of carrier particles to bind a sufficient amount of the pesticide to the carrier particles so as to reduce the release rate of the pesticide from the controlled release matrix [to produce a plurality of pesticide-containing carrier particles]; [then]

(b) placing the pesticide-containing carrier particles and [mixing the pesticide-containing carrier particles with] a hydrophobic thermoplastic polymer in a forming zone [to produce a mixture of pesticide-containing carrier particles and said polymer]; and

(c) forming [said mixture of] the pesticide-containing carrier particles and the polymer placed in said zone [to produce said] into a controlled [control] release matrix [device] having pesticide-containing carrier particles dispersed throughout the polymer.

Sub D3 3. (Twice Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said hydrophobic polymer has a hydrophobicity of less than about 13 on either the HLB or solubility parameter scale.

Sub F1 4. (Thrice Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said forming comprises enveloping [encasing] said mixture as an inner part within [with] a second [said] hydrophobic polymer.

6. (Twice Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said matrix [device] releases said pesticide at a release rate [is] in the range between 4.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2/\text{day}$ to 40.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2/\text{day}$ [days] [measured using 1/8 inch thick one inch squares].

Sub F1 (Twice Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said hydrophobic thermoplastic polymer is selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, vinyl acetate, [,] polyester, silicone, neoprene,

Sub F1
~~isoprene [disoprene] and combinations thereof.~~

isoprene [disoprene] and combinations thereof.
~~(Twice Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one said pesticide has a vapor pressure in the range from 1 nPa to 100 mPa.~~

isoprene [disoprene] and combinations thereof.
~~9. (Twice Amended) The method as recited in claim 1 [8], wherein the polymer is a high density polymer.~~

isoprene [disoprene] and combinations thereof.
~~10. (Twice Amended) The method as recited in claim 42, wherein said [high density] pre-polymer is high density polyethylene.~~

isoprene [disoprene] and combinations thereof.
~~12. (Twice Amended) The method as recited in claim 42, wherein said [hydrophobic] thermoplastic pre-polymer [polymer] is a low density hydrophobic pre-polymer.~~

isoprene [disoprene] and combinations thereof.
~~13. (Twice Amended) The method as recited in claim 42, wherein said pre-polymer is selected from the group consisting of [,] polyester, low density polyethylene, and combinations thereof.~~

isoprene [disoprene] and combinations thereof.
~~14. (Twice Amended) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein said pesticide is selected from the group consisting of tri-chloronitromethane [under the tradename Chloropicrin], a mixture of methylisothiocyanate and 1-3 dichloropropane, sodium N-methyl dithiocarbamate, 2,3,5,6 - tetrachloro - 1,9 - benzoquinone [under the tradename Chloronil], calcium cyanamide, biphenyl, copper naphthenate, dichlorophen, fentin hydroxide and combinations thereof.~~

isoprene [disoprene] and combinations thereof.
~~15. (Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said pesticide is selected from the group consisting of biphenyl [byphenyl], dichlorophen [dichlorphen], tri-chloronitromethane [Chloropicrin], and combinations thereof.~~

isoprene [disoprene] and combinations thereof.
~~16. (Amended) The method claimed in claim 1 [further comprising the step of shaping said mixture of pesticide-containing carrier and the polymer] wherein the matrix is~~

formed into a pellet [pallet].

Sub 13
134. (Amended) The method claimed in claim 1 [further comprising the step of shaping said mixture of pesticide-containing carrier and the polymer] wherein the matrix is formed into a sheet [having a thickness in the range from 60 mil to 120 mil].

Sub 14
14. (Amended) The method claimed in claim 1 [further comprising the step of shaping said mixture of pesticide-containing carrier and the polymer] wherein the matrix is formed into strips.

Sub 15
15. (Amended) The method claimed in claim 1 wherein [said at least one pesticide comprises from about 5 to about 30 weight percent of said mixture,] said carrier comprises from about 3 to about 30 weight percent of said matrix [mixture] and said polymer comprises from about 40 weight percent [of said mixture] to about 92 weight percent of said matrix.

Sub D4
37. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said hydrophobic polymer has a hydrophobicity of less than about 10 on either the HLB or solubility parameter scale.

Sub C6
38. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said hydrophobic polymer has a hydrophobicity of less than about 8 on either the HLB or solubility parameter scale.

Sub D5
41. (Amended) A method of making a device [devices] for controlled release of at least one pesticide useful for retarding or preventing decay or deterioration of a wooden object by pests, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) binding at least one liquid pesticide to carrier particles to produce pesticide-containing carrier particles; then
- (b) encapsulating said pesticide-containing carrier particles with a thermoplastic hydrophobic polymer to produce [a plurality of] said device [devices], wherein the amount of pesticide bound to the carrier particles is sufficient to achieve a desired release rate of the pesticide from said device.

42. (Amended) A [a] method of making a device for controlled release of at least one pesticide useful for retarding or preventing decay or deterioration of a wooden object by pests, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) binding at least one liquid pesticide to carrier particles to produce pesticide-containing carrier particles;

(b) mixing said pesticide-containing carrier particles with a thermoplastic pre-polymer to produce a mixture; and

(c) polymerizing said pre-polymer in said mixture to form a continuous polymeric matrix with said pesticide-containing carrier particles being dispersed throughout said matrix, said matrix being hydrophobic, wherein the amount of pesticide bound to the carrier particles is sufficient to achieve a desired release rate of the pesticide from the device.

Please add the following new claims 43-62:

-- 43. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the mixture further comprises at least some of the hydrophobic thermoplastic polymer that is subsequently placed in said zone.

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44. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the release rate of the pesticide from the controlled release matrix is reduced so as to retard or prevent decay or deterioration of the wooden object by pests for a period of at least about 7 years.

22
45. (New) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the polymer is low density polyethylene.

23
46. (New) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one pesticide is an insecticide.

24
47. (New) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the pesticide is selected from the group consisting of pyrethrin, tefluthrin, permethrin, cypermethrin, fenoxy carb, chlorpyrifos, lambda cyhalothrin, resmethrin, deltamethrin, cyphenothrin, cyfluthrin, and combinations thereof.

~~2548~~ (New) The method claimed in claim 1, wherein the pesticide is lambdacyhalothrin.

~~2640~~ (New) The method claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of shaping the mixture of the pesticide-containing carrier particles and the polymer into a multi-laminate sheet.

~~27~~ (New) The method claimed in claim ~~24~~, wherein the sheet has a thickness in the range from about 60 mil to about 120 mil.

~~28~~ (New) The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one pesticide comprises from about 5 to about 30 weight percent of the matrix.

~~29~~ (New) The method as recited in claim 41, wherein the polymer is a low density polymer.

~~29~~ (New) The method as recited in claim ~~41~~, wherein the polymer is low density polyethylene.

~~30~~ (New) The method as recited in claim ~~41~~, wherein the at least one pesticide is an insecticide.

~~31~~ (New) The method as recited in claim ~~41~~, wherein the pesticide is selected from the group consisting of pyrethrin, tefuthrin, permethrin, cypermethrin, fenoxy carb, chlorpyrifos, lambdacyhalothrin, resmethrin, deltamethrin, cyphenothrin, cyfluthrin, and combinations thereof.

~~32~~ (New) The method as recited in claim ~~41~~, wherein the pesticide is lambdacyhalothrin.

~~33~~ (New) The method as recited in claim ~~41~~, wherein the release rate of the